

# Colossians 3:1

“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Welcome to our services and thank you for visiting. If you have any questions about our beliefs or practices, please don't hesitate to ask.

God has not only commanded us to worship Him, but has also told us how, in His word. **The elements of our services, as prescribed by God's word, are as follows:**

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD'S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



## COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00  
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00  
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00  
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00

- [www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Night: Guest Speaker
- Men's Business Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday evenings following services.



## SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

Southside church of Christ, 1167 South Lowry  
Smyrna, TN 37167, Phone (615) 459-7854  
“They...searched the scriptures daily...” –Acts 17:11

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### “It's EASY!”

Michael Pickford

It's not uncommon in our society to hear someone saying, “It's easy.” I fear that some things have become easy for Christians which have a negative effect on their service to the Lord.

**Giving.** The Gospel makes it clear that we are to be willing to give to those who have needs arise. In fact, this is one of the reasons we are to work (Ephesians 4:28). The rich may have an even bigger responsibility in this area (1 Timothy 6:17-19). But it's easy to rationalize our way out of this obligation. It's easy to say “Well, they should have been better stewards of their money.” It's easy to say “Why don't they just go get a job.” It's easy to say “Someone else will help them.” John said, “But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?” (1 John 3:17). Oh, and it's easy to say “I'm barely supporting my own family.” The Macedonians were blessed for giving liberally though they themselves were in poverty (2 Corinthians 8:1-2).

**Growing.** The Bible tells us we must grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord (2 Peter 3:18). But it's easy to weasel out of this one too. “I'm too busy with other important things to maintain daily Bible study.” We are fools when we clutter up our schedules so much that there's no time for deep, diligent, daily Bible study (Acts 17:11). It's easy to say “I'm too tired to study today, but I'll make it up tomorrow.” Does it happen tomorrow? We make time for ballgames, social events, TV, Internet, etc. If most Christians were one quarter as diligent about studying their Bible as they are about these things, the Lord's church would be bursting open with “Bible experts!”

**Going.** We know we are to assemble with the saints (Hebrews 10:25), but it's easy to get out of this one too. “I'm just so tired.” “I have a headache.” “I have this important thing to do.” I've seen very aged people with dilapidated bodies struggling to faithfully attend every service for years, while healthy folks a third their age “blow off” the assembly for a “Little sniffle.” There are legitimate reasons for missing, but most the reasons we hear are surely not among them.

Oh, did I mention? It's easy to lose your soul! (Matthew 7:13-14). 🔍

Evangelist & Editor: Michael Pickford, 615-471-1612, [mpickford3@comcast.net](mailto:mpickford3@comcast.net)

[www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)

## GOD BEFORE FAMILY

Mike Thomas

It is no coincidence that Jesus taught the principle of placing God before family in the same context He taught people to bear their cross. There is no heavier burden to endure in life than loving God more than earthly family. Nevertheless, Jesus said, *“He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me”* (Matthew 10:37-38).

Whenever we feel like this burden is more than we can bear, we need to remember what God told Aaron in the aftermath of Nadab and Abihu’s death, who were consumed with fire for disobeying God in worship (Leviticus 10:1-3). They were Aaron’s two oldest sons (Numbers 3:2), and had just been appointed by God to serve as priests with their father. Even still, after the men died, God told Aaron and his remaining sons, *“Do not uncover your heads nor tear your clothes, lest you die...you shall not go out from the door of the tabernacle of meeting”* (Leviticus 10:6-7). Did God not care that a father had just lost his sons and a family was in shock? Of course not. Then why the “harsh” treatment? Why keep them at the tabernacle? Because *“the anointing oil of the Lord”* was upon them (v. 7). Aaron and his sons had just been consecrated to serve as priests and could not mourn in the typical manner without becoming defiled. They had to place God’s will above their own by supporting His judgment and by fulfilling their priestly duties of making atonement for sin. Amazingly, they obeyed God and bore their cross (v. 7).

In a similar manner, God is expecting the same commitment from us. We must love Him more than our earthly family by supporting His judgments. Not that we stop caring for our family; that’s impossible. It’s just that we love God more by adhering to the one faith, one church, and other truths He revealed (Ephesians 4:1-5), even when our loved ones will not. This is the devotion Aaron had to have when his sons defied God, and the devotion we must have to stand alone. If we do not, and compromise with error instead, we are not worthy to be called God’s people. But if we do make this painful stand, and bear this most heavy cross, *“by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him”* (1 John 3:19). -

### Watch Your Mouth!

Have you ever been told to watch your mouth? Perhaps as a child, but sadly, many adults need to watch their mouths. A person’s maturity level can usually be determined by what comes out of his mouth. Filthy language makes one look ignorant and immature. When one uses foul language he disrespects every decent person within earshot. *“Put away from you a devious mouth, And put perverse lips far from you.”* –Proverbs 4:24 (See Colossians 3:8) -MP

## SERMON NOTES

*Search the scriptures daily to see if these things are so.*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDY  
DAILY!  
Acts  
17:11**

### DUTY LIST...

#### SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Glenn Isbell  
Reading: Matthew 27:17-22
- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Opening Prayer.....Kenny Johnson
- Lord’s Table:
  - Lead.....Kenny Todd
  - Serve.....John Nelson
  - Serve.....Michael Pickford
- Closing Prayer.....Sam Miller

#### SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Lord’s Table.....Michael Pickford

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Invitation.....Michael Pickford

### GOD’S PLAN OF SALVATION

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16;  
Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

***Obey Today!***

**Thank You For Serving!**

***Home Bible Studies  
Available Upon Request!***